Stroke Center Certification Readiness Consulting (Joint Commission, DNV, ACHC)

Last reviewed October 2026 · https://www.integralhs.com/stroke-center-certification-readiness

What to have ready

These are the items to gather first, each tied to the text that asks for it.

- A decision on body and level, since each body publishes separate levels and requirements (Joint Commission [https://www.jointcommission.org/en-us/certification/stroke]; DNV [https://www.dnv.us/services/stroke-care-certification-programs-219582/]; ACHC [https://achc.org/stroke-certification/]).
- The governing text for your route: the 2026 Comprehensive Certification Manual for Disease-Specific Care (Joint Commission [https://www.jointcommission.org/en-us/products/scs26p/ebscs26]) or the DNV Integrated Stroke Center Program Requirements 25-0 (DNV [https://www.dnv.us/services/stroke-care-certification-programs-219582/]).
- For the Joint Commission route, your accreditation status. The DSC page says certification options are open to organizations accredited by The Joint Commission and does not address others; IHS's reading is that accreditation is the expected path, and your hospital confirms eligibility with the Joint Commission (Joint Commission, DSC [https://www.jointcommission.org/en-us/certification/disease-specific-care]).
- Evidence for each of the three core components: the standards, the clinical practice guidelines your program follows, and performance measurement (Joint Commission [https://www.jointcommission.org/en-us/certification/stroke]).
- For a Joint Commission TSC, a count of mechanical thrombectomy cases, checked against the current Disease-Specific Care manual. The April 2025 comparison grid shows 15 patients in 12 months or 30 in 24 months, and that grid predates the 2026 manual this page calls governing (Joint Commission comparison grid [https://digitalassets.jointcommission.org/api/public/content/1c589c49792946f7b11d7ad6903b38a1?v=1e0bc051]).
- A measure process ready to gather data on each measure every month and submit it each quarter to The Joint Commission through the Certification Measure Information Process (CMIP) (Joint Commission, DSC [https://www.jointcommission.org/en-us/certification/disease-specific-care]).
- Measure results that meet the threshold criteria for applicable measures at initial certification and at recertification (Joint Commission, DSC [https://www.jointcommission.org/en-us/certification/disease-specific-care]).
- Patient records that let a reviewer follow individual patients' care across the whole program (Joint Commission, certification process [https://www.jointcommission.org/en-us/certification/process]).
- Staff time after the review: corrective actions are due to The Joint Commission within 60 days after the survey (Joint Commission, certification process [https://www.jointcommission.org/en-us/certification/process]).
- For the DNV route, a view of how your program maps to Get With The Guidelines-Stroke, which DNV's PSC page says is layered onto its programs (DNV, PSC [https://www.dnv.com/services/primary-stroke-centre-psc-certification/], page opened October 3, 2026).